

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, July 28, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

YC holds summer basketball camp

Bill Lewit, head coach of the Cecil Community College players, will instruct summer basketball camp at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2752.

The camp will teach the fundamentals of basketball including passing, shooting, dribbling, rebounding, defense, team play and sportsmanship.

There will be three-on-three and five-on-five league games, and foul shooting and hotshot competitions. Cost is \$50 per CYS member and \$55 per guest. Youths must be registered at the AA and EA Youth Centers by noon, July 22.

Summer basketball camp will be held 6 to 9 p.m., July 26 through 30, for boys and girls in incoming grades 4 through 9.

Youths should bring desire, heart, sneakers, athletic shorts and shirt.

For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297, or e-mail william.kegley@usag.apg.army.mil.

RAB meeting July 29

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., July 29, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road, featuring an update on the Westwood Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

EA community yard sale this weekend

The Edgewood Area of APG will hold its community yard sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., July 24 and 25.

Rain dates are July 31 and Aug. 1.

Participating housing areas include Everett Road, Deer Run, Skippers Point, Clearview Drive, Chevron Drive and Austin Road.

The Community Life Mayoral Program is sponsoring the yard sale.

See SHORTS, page 4

Col. Wright takes charge of APG Garrison



Photo by BLAKE VOSHELL

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and Deputy Installation Commander Col. John T. Wright, acquaints himself with his new office in building 305 in the Aberdeen Area.

Meghan Bowen

APG News

Col. John T. Wright assumed command of the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground and responsibilities as deputy installation commander July 8. He is using his past experiences to benefit APG's future.

Wright utilizes both his military and civilian schooling to lead and command.

At the Georgia Institute of Technology, Wright became more detail oriented as well as "being able to understand complex details and to ask the right questions."

Wright's master's of business administration from Babson College and master's of strategic studies from the Air War College prepared him for "finance and operating the business of Aberdeen Proving Ground and how to market it."

Wright also participated in thinking expeditions that taught him more about team building while he was at the Pentagon.

Wright also learned how to deal with reductions in staff, since some of his fellow professors were called to duty.

During his time as a second lieutenant and an assistant installation coordinator, Wright gained both a physical and administrative comprehension of the responsibilities of a leader.

But Wright's most recent experience as the chief of support for the Multinational Force and Observers in Egypt as well as the deputy commander prepared him the best for leading a community of

people towards a common goal, because he was "responsible for all aspects of support for the peacekeeping mission."

"The key ingredient is knowing how to communicate with people; it's very much a coming together," Wright said. "It's also important to understand the strengths and weaknesses of individuals."

"It's also important to know who to go to [here] and make sure that they have the resources that they need and the time to accomplish their mission," Wright said. "I want to make sure they are empowered."

One of Wright's first acts as the new APG Garrison and deputy installation commander was to gather leaders from each directorate and ask them a few key questions to gain their insight on how to improve APG.

"I asked them, if you were in charge of APG for a year, what would you do?" Wright said. "I also asked them if there was anything that prevents them from doing their jobs."

Responses were anonymous and collected on blue paper, since "that's where all of the important ideas are written" and because that color of paper stands out when mixed with the white papers on his desk, Wright said.

This September, Wright will mark 23 years of service in the Army. He served his duty in the United States as well as three years in Germany, two years in Korea,

See GARRISON, page 12

Army set to deploy new automated HR tools

CHRA

During the last two years, the Human Resources community has been diligently working to enhance Resumix functionalities in order to improve the Army suite of recruitment and staffing tools and to develop and deploy additional automated HR tools.

The Resumix Redesign effort was to be accomplished in three phases. Phases I and II are complete.

These two phases involved changes to accommodate the move to a single, centralized Resumix database and deployment of Web-based Referral Lists, an enhanced vacancy

announcement builder, ANSWER applicant notification system, standardized application processes, an automated Reemployment Priority List (RPL) program and OPM authority to conduct Administrative Careers With America examinations.

The Army's implementation of phase III is scheduled to begin in August.

The first tools to be deployed will be the automated Delegated Examining tool and the Electronic Recruitment Case File tool.

Deployment of the automated Delegated Examining tool is a huge step forward in the

Civilian Human Resources Agency's capability to streamline, simplify and expedite the examination and referral of external candidates. This tool will benefit both the HR community and managers. The DEU tool:

- Allows managers and subject matter experts to "weight" Resumix skills used in the examination process to ensure higher quality referrals.
- Eliminates the need for traditional "crediting plans" involving Knowledge, Skills and Abilities, or KSAs.
- Allows managers to use same Resumix Skill Search Plan developed for internal

merit promotion.

- Streamlines external and internal recruitment into one simplified Resumix process.

- Eliminates the need for hard copy referral list, resumes, SF 171 and OF 612. Referral lists and resumes will be electronically generated for external recruitments as they are currently issued for internal merit promotion recruitments.

- Allows the manager to receive and review the internal and external referral lists simultaneously.

- Allows CPOC and CPAC personnelists to conduct internal and external recruitment

simultaneously, thereby significantly reducing the amount of time required to provide quality referral lists.

- Allows personnelists to take advantage of the streamlined processes that are already being used to evaluate internal applicants under Resumix.

- Allows CPOC managers to decentralize their Delegated Examining Units and make better use of resources previously dedicated to the manual external recruitment effort.

Following deployment of these two new staffing tools, the Army will deploy an

See HR TOOLS, page 12

Lightning causes temporary power outage at ABCDF

Jeff Lindblad

ABCDF

Workers at the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility evacuated the facility as a precautionary measure when a nearby lightning strike caused an electrical power outage July 14.

Within minutes power was transferred to a back-up generator. Analysis of the facility's

chemical agent monitoring system during the brief power outage indicated that low levels of mustard agent vapor were present and contained within the confines of the facility's neutralization bay and adjacent rooms.

At no time was any agent vapor detected outside the facility structure. At no time was there a threat to the work-

ers, community or environment.

Two employees, wearing fully protective clothing and equipment, were performing maintenance in the neutralization bay at the time of the power outage. The workers were wearing complete protective gear with self-contained breathing apparatus, as required to protect against

potential agent contamination. The workers exited the neutralization bay safely in accordance with operating procedures.

Within an hour full power was brought back online. Workers returned to the facility and resumed operations once it was determined that it was safe to re-enter the building.

Since beginning disposal operations in April 2003, workers at the ABCDF have safely neutralized almost 25 percent of the Aberdeen mustard agent stockpile.

More information about storage and disposal operations at ABCDF is available at the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency's Web site, <http://www.cma.army.mil>.

Warrant officers wear new branch insignia

E.C. Starnes

U.S. Army Ordnance Corps

The warrant officers at Aberdeen Proving Ground are now sporting some new hardware on their uniforms.

On July 9 they joined all Army warrant officers in taking off their traditional "Eagle Rising" insignia and putting on their particular branch insignia.

At the same time, all Chief Warrant Officers 5 pinned on their new rank insignia.

At APG, the event was highlighted by a ceremony conducted at Ordnance Circle as the Chief of Ordnance assisted in the transition on the 86th anniversary of the Army Warrant Officer Corps.

Brig. Gen. Mike Lenaers called the gathered warrant

officers the "tell it like it is leaders" of the Army. He noted that the symbolic change being celebrated at the ceremony reflected the historic image and role of the warrant officer.

And, he stated that while the symbols may have changed, their role had not.

"What does the chief say?" still must be asked," he said.

Lenaers also said "symbols we wear sometimes get in the way of what we are and what we do." In the end, he noted, it's all about team.

"We are becoming more and more joint," he continued. "The American flag on our right shoulder and the U.S. Army over our heart are the most important patches on our uniform."

See NEW INSIGNIA, page 12



Photo by RALPH BROTH

Chief Warrant Officer 5 James Wynne, center, Ordnance Corps Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, pins Ordnance Branch insignia on the collar of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Shawn Mease, a Warrant Officer Advanced Course student, as Chief Warrant Officer 4 B. Scott Wilson looks on. The pinning was part of a ceremony held at Ordnance Circle on the 86th Anniversary of the Army Warrant Officer Corps. During the ceremony Army Warrant Officers removed their traditional "Eagle Rising" insignia and replaced it with their appropriate branch insignia. Also, Chief Warrant Officers 5 received their new distinctive rank insignia.

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APG youths make State All Stars

ARL becomes one of world's largest supercomputing centers

Computing capabilities to increase with \$20 million addition

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory Major Shared Resource Center is adding three computing systems to its already large inventory, which will make it one of the largest compute centers in the Department of Defense.

The addition of three new computing systems, worth \$20 million, will increase the center's computing capabilities from 9.1 Trillion Floating-Point Operations Per Second (TFLOPS) to 36 trillion TFLOPS, said Charles J. Nietubicz, director of the ARL MSRC.

"This increase in computing capability will give DoD scientists and engineers the ability to solve complex, three-dimensional, time-dependent, physics-based problems in a timeframe that can provide the data necessary to assist with weapon development and procurement decisions," he said.

The upgrade is part of the DoD High Performance Computing Modernization Program, which initiated the opening of four centers, one each in Maryland and Ohio and two in Mississippi. The supercomputing center has been operating at the ARL since 1996.

According to a Congressional report, "High performance computing and

communications are vital, essential technologies that will drive or limit the conduct of virtually all science and engineering for the foreseeable future."

HPC modernization provides the capability for fulfilling the mission requirements for advanced weapons and platform design that have stringent requirements for performance, stealth and affordability.

It improves the design, development, and manufacturing processes for military systems, leads the way for cost reduction in these systems, and enhances the opportunity for commercialization of computational products by other sectors.

The three systems, which are the first major commodity-based symmetric multiprocessor supercomputers utilized in the HPCMO, will be delivered to the ARL MSRC in August.

"We hope to have them fully functioning by November," said Denice P. Brown, branch chief for the Computer Systems Branch and deputy director of the ARL MSRC.

Brown said the three systems consist of a 2,232-CPU Linux NetworX Evolocity 11 system, which will increase computational capability by more than 15 TFLOPS; a

2,304-CPOU cluster from IBM, which will increase capabilities by more than 10 TFLOPS; and a Silicon Graphics 256 processor single system image Altix system that will add an additional two TFLOPs.

"The ARL MSRC serves a diverse, technically challenging HPC user population," Brown said. "The selection of Linux NetworX, IBM, and SGI systems provides the flexibility to meet the users' diverse challenges."

High performance Computing Modernization Program

Realizing the importance of a cohesive, integrated computing environment, Congress enacted the High Performance Computing Modernization Program in 1992 to modernize and consolidate the DOD's HPC capabilities.

Before HPCMP was created, pilot HPC efforts surfaced throughout the DoD and spanned every branch of the military. However, these efforts were often small-scale in scope and were located at disparate HPC centers, which lacked the ability to communicate and share information with each another.

Because the military relies on high performance computing technologies, the speed, robust performance and advanced capabilities of HPC systems make them ideal for scientific modeling and simulation and engineering environments - spanning research, product design, and development.

HPC systems also save the DoD time and money by accelerating the design process because it is significantly cheaper and faster to experiment with a weapon system or vehicle computationally prior to building an actual prototype.

Currently, the HPCMP is comprised of a number of HPC groups located across all military branches.

The HPCMP provides supercomputer services, high-

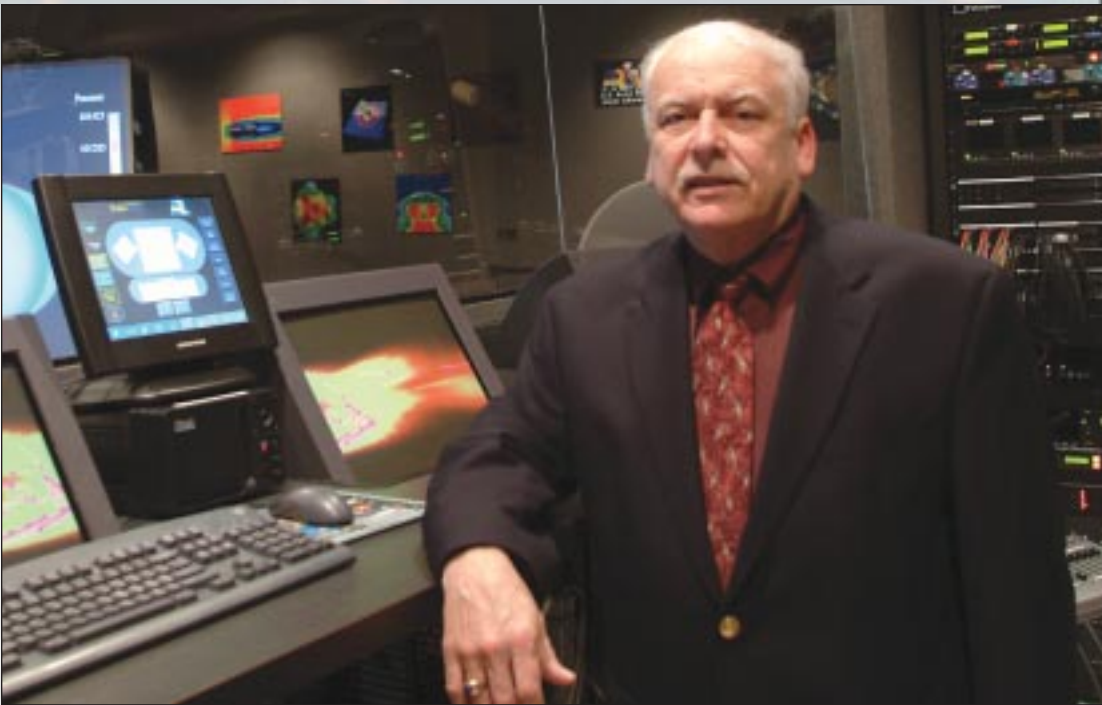


Illustration by
BLAKE VOSHELL

Photo by BRIAN SIMMONDS

Charlie Nietubicz, director of the ARL MSRC, stands in the control room of the center's Scientific Visualization Laboratory

speed network communications, and computational science expertise that enables defense laboratories and test centers to conduct a wide-range of research, development, and test activities. The program also procures advanced, commercially available high performance computers, software tools, programming environments and complete technology infrastructures.

This consolidation allows for advanced technology to reach America's forces more quickly, in a cheaper manner, and with greater certainty of success.

ARL MSRC

A major component of the HPCMP was the establishment of four Major Shared Resource Centers. Each MSRC operates large HPC systems and helps the entire DoD focus and exploit HPC technology.

Each MSRC provides a complete HPC environment, as well as a full range of resources, including hardware, software, data storage, archiving, visualization, training and expertise in specific computational technology areas.

The ARL, which was cho-

sen as one of the MSRC locations in 1996, serves as a formidable host because of its strong ties to the military's HPC user base and the laboratory's long history of leveraging innovative, leading-edge HPC systems.

The goal of the ARL MSRC is to provide world-class HPC services and create a computational environment that makes HPC an integral part of defense research and development, as well as test and evaluation processes. The ultimate goal is to help the DoD provide its warfighters with the best, most innovative technologies and weapons systems.

Starting a legacy

The ARL MSRC consistently receives accolades from its DoD customer base. The center continues to perform above the original baseline standards set forth in the ARL MSRC contract. Some examples of the center's accomplishments include:

- Systems availability maintained at 98 percent or higher.
- HPC capability increased more than 35 times the original outlined baseline.
- The ARL MSRC is

consistently ranked among the top five percent of the most powerful computing sites in the world.

➤ Reduced the DoD's cost of procuring HPC infrastructure and maintenance ten-fold

➤ Provides leading, state-of-the-art visualization as well as simulation capabilities to DoD scientists and engineers.

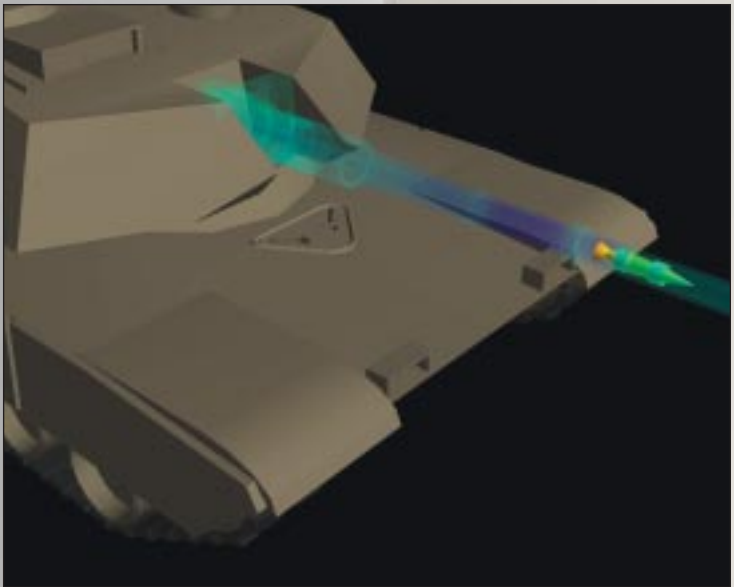
ARL MSRC history

The Army Research Laboratory, the Army's corporate lab for research, is at the hub of technological innovations, research and development capabilities for DOD.

A predecessor to the ARL, the Ballistic Research Laboratory helped develop the world's first general-purpose electronic digital computer in 1946.

That computer, the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC), was developed to calculate ballistic firing tables for the United States in World War II, and helped pioneer the modern computer era.

Today, ARL continues to advance the boundaries of the military's computing technology.



Visualization by JERRY CLARKE and JOHN VINES
Scientificvisualizations, like this visualization of a Tactical M830A1 MPAT-Tcartridge, help researchers and scientists get visual proof of their hard data.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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VETERANS' VOICES



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY ORDNANCE MUSEUM

The Purple Heart monument like this one that sits in a Maryland Eastern Shore community will be erected at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum located on Aberdeen Proving Ground and designated a state memorial during a ceremony scheduled for 10 a.m., Aug. 7.

APG to be home of state Purple Heart Memorial

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground military community will join the Military Order of the Purple Heart in dedicating the State of Maryland Purple Heart Memorial at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum during a 10 a.m. ceremony Aug. 7.

Brig. Gen. Mike Lanaers, U.S. Army Ordnance Center

and Schools commander and chief of Ordnance; Orville R. Hughes, Department of Maryland commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; George W. Owings, secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs; James A. Adkins, deputy to the secretary; elected officials and representatives from veteran organizations will be in attendance.

The ceremony is open to

the public. Organizers expect more than 100 recipients of the Purple Heart to be in attendance. Purple heart recipients, their family members or survivors are encouraged to attend.

The date of the dedication coincides with Purple Heart Day, observed each year on Aug. 7 by members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Visiting Navy crewman rescues APG motorist

Susan Hagan (ATSS)
ATC

A Special Warfare Combat Crewman visiting the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center rescued a stranded motorist during the heavy rainstorms that flooded roadways on Aberdeen Proving Ground July 12.

While traveling from the Shoppette to his room at the Swan Creek Inn at around 6 p.m., Damage Control Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Kelly came upon George Alexander stranded in his car in the rapidly rising waters in front of the Burger King on Aberdeen Boulevard.

A utility truck sat on one

side of the flood while APG Police and Fire Department officials evaluated the situation from the other side.

“The car was stopped 200 to 300 yards out and had water up to its windows,” Kelly said. “Mr. Alexander was sitting in the window of his vehicle.”

Kelly informed the utility worker that he was going after Alexander and went to his Navy truck for a length of 1-inch tubular and a life vest. After tying the tubular to the utility truck’s bumper, Kelly made his way through the water over to the stranded motorist as the utility worker fed out the line.

After helping Alexander



Photo by SGT JAMES WISEMAN

George Alexander’s car sits stranded in several feet of water in front of Burger King on Aberdeen Boulevard. He was rescued by Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Kelly July 12.

into the life vest, both men made it safely back through the current. Unfortunately, Alexander’s briefcase remained on the hood of the car.

“The guy was stuck in his car,” Kelly said. “I figured I could help him out.”

“This turned out to be a positive outcome, however not everyone has swift water training like Mr. Kelly did; so we would not encourage others to

take the same measures into unknown flood waters. Items such as missing manhole covers, underwater debris that could snag your clothing are just a few of the hazards associated with swift water. Always wait for the proper authorities to respond first,” said Donald Collier, assistant chief of APG Fire and Emergency Services.

See RESCUE, page 13



Photo by JOHN ALLISON

The helicopter dunker training device simulates an actual helicopter landing in the water then rolling inverted.

PAAF aircrews receive underwater egress training

Allan Johns
ATC

Crews from Phillips Army Airfield flew to Norfolk Naval Air Station, Va., to obtain underwater egress, helicopter emergency egress device emergency air bottle, and helicopter dunker training for their annual Safety Day April 26.

Navy flight crews receive this training in flight school since most of their flying is conducted over water. Although the majority of Army flying takes place over land, the PAAF aircrews rarely leave the airfield without traveling over water. The aircraft are equipped with life rafts and flotation gear; however, training in the use of this equipment is essential.

“This training greatly increases survivability for both crewmen and passengers in the unlikely event of a controlled ditching or malfunction requiring a water landing” said John Mullin, airfield commander. “By having the training, crewmen will be much better prepared to assist passengers in a ditching situation.”

Prior to beginning the training, individuals were required to pass a Navy class II swimming test to demonstrate proficiency in basic swimming skills and methods of staying afloat. This test is done in full flight gear: flight suit, boots,

vest, gloves, and helmet.

“Crews practiced at a local swimming pool once a week for about a month prior to the trip to Norfolk to get everyone used to the extra weight of the gear in the water,” Mullin said.

Dunker training

The helicopter dunker is a mockup of the interior of a generic aircraft with cutouts for windows and a main cabin door. Seats are arranged representative of actual helicopter seating. The device resembles an oversized 55-gallon drum and is suspended above the swimming pool by cables.

Students enter the device from an elevated platform and are assigned seats by number. Once everyone is strapped in, the device is allowed to fall to the water where it promptly sinks and rotates 180 degrees to an inverted position to simulate what would occur in an actual helicopter ditching. Students are instructed to wait for a 10 second count before un-strapping and exiting the helicopter. Once out of the device and clear, each student swims to the surface and exits the pool. This is repeated three times in different seat positions each time.

The last time, difficulty is increased by blindfolding the students.

The technique taught is to use handholds to guide the

way to the exit rather than the eyes since in a real situation, the water would be darkened and sight would be limited or nonexistent.

“Actually being upside down under six feet of water strapped into a seat is very different than what I imagined. A very intense experience,” said Crew Chief Mike Pyle.

Underwater egress

Training was also received in a shallow water egress trainer, which utilizes the shallow end of the pool set up with a training device that will invert the student and require him to swim underwater in an encaged area to an egress door prior to surfacing.

This device is combined with helicopter aircrew breathing device bottle training, which gives the aircrew member approximately two minutes of breathing air to allow time to un-strap and make his way to an exit. The HABD resembles a miniature scuba tank and operates on the same principal. It is small enough to fit in the survival vest worn by each crewman.

Crew Chief Chris Jones summed up the training by saying, “It was definitely a challenging training experience and it will be well worth it if we ever need to use these procedures in reality.”

Post Shorts

Social hour at Top of the Bay

Every Friday at Top of the Bay there will be a “social” hour, 4 to 8 p.m. featuring a cash bar, free munchies, and wings available for purchase.

Sponsored by Bank One, www.bankone.com/, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union,

www.apgfcu.com/, the Friday gatherings are open to everyone.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

Briefing on new personnel system Aug. 3

The Army Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel Policy, Dave Snyder, will conduct a town hall meeting 1 p.m., Aug. 3 on the new personnel system that will eventually affect all Department of Defense civilians.

This is an opportunity for all civilians to learn the status and key milestones, as well as an opportunity to ask questions.

The briefing will take place at the APG Post Theatre, building 3245, and a broadcast to the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4810, at the same time.

All civilians and military supervisors are encouraged to attend.

For information on NSPS prior to the briefing, visit the NSPS Web site, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/>.

Anyone unable attend the briefing, but has questions should submit them to Human.Resources@apgea.ar.my.mil NTL July 25.

Fuel Station closes on Ozone Action Days

When forecasted code “Orange” and code “Red” Ozone Action Days occur, the Directorate of Installation Operations will close government fueling stations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at building 4209 in the Aberdeen Area and building E-4017 in the Edgewood Area.

Compressed natural gas and diesel fuel pumps will remain open during forecasted OADs.

The use of compressed natural gas in dual fuel vehicles is strongly encouraged to reduce harmful air emissions, especially on a declared OAD.

In the event of an emergency, i.e., an emergency vehicle needs refueling between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., call 410-278-2871/3414 or 410-436-3270 to request DIO personnel to open the pumps.

Military Christian Center schedules trips for Soldiers

The Military Christian Center, a home away from home for Soldiers, provides trips to local area sites.

July 24, Arundel Mills Shopping (1:30 p.m.)

Aug. 1, Washington, D.C. (6:30 a.m.)

All trips request a donation of \$2. To reserve a seat, call 410-272-1144 after 8 p.m. on Friday evenings.

The center is open Friday evening through Sunday at 16 North Philadelphia Blvd., Aberdeen. Free home-cooked meals and facilities are available.

The center will provide transportation via a phone call.

AA Thrift Shop offers bargains

The Thrift Shop sales hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Consignment hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call 410-272-8572.

EA Badge Office hour changes

The Edgewood Area Badge/ID Office, building E-4420, room 109, will return to full-time services starting Aug. 2.

Hours of operation for the Edgewood Area office will be 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4 p.m., Monday thru Thursday, and 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 3 p.m. on non-RDO Friday. On RDO Friday (payday Friday), the office will be closed.

Weight Watchers holds lunchtime meetings at APG

Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are continuing on post with the newest program from Weight Watchers - FlexPoints. FlexPoints makes losing weight in the real world easier.

Take advantage of group support where it’s convenient at APG. Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are open to all APG civilian personnel, retirees, military personnel and family members.

For more information about the Weight Watchers’ program at APG, call 410-278-1151.

APG plans Retiree Appreciation Day

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold it’s annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 to 11:45 a.m., Nov. 13, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

Representatives from area agencies to include, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Commissary, Post Exchange, Community and Family Activities and the Veterans Administration will be on hand.

The National Association for Uniformed Services will provide a guest speaker.

Following the program everyone is welcomed to stay for lunch at the Dining Facility, building 4503.

For more information, call Army retirees Col. Charles M. Shadle, chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-663-9263 or Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Decker, co-chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-306-1153.

Christian coffee-house opens

The Coffee Grounds, a Christian coffeehouse, is now open 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, and 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday evenings in building 4308, at the intersection of Susquehanna and Erie boulevards. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Live bands, open mike nights, and various readings are scheduled for Saturday nights.

Both nights feature coffee and snacks in a Christian gathering.

For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Mike Curtis at 410-278-3976.

Reserve Capa Field now

The Civilian Welfare Fund is taking reservations for CAPA Field, for personal use. The fee is \$200 per day. For more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

Women’s Equality Day Essay Contest

All military, civilian, and family members within the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area communities are welcome to participate in the Women’s Equality Day Essay and Display contest. The theme is Celebrating Women’s Right to Vote.

The deadline for submitting essays is Aug. 16. Plaques will be awarded to two winners in each category at 3 p.m., Aug. 24, on the second floor of building 3071. Displays may include models, posters and/or collages. Essays must be double-spaced, 12 font and two to four pages long.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Arbel Connor, 410-278-2529, Sgt. 1st Class McCormick, 410-278-5598, or Sgt. 1st Class Ahmed, 410-436-1076.

Paid volunteers needed

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory will be conducting multiple studies in July and August at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Paid listeners need to be 18- to 40-years old, with normal hearing.

The listening time for each study is 2 to 4 hours. Each listener will be paid \$15 to \$20 per hour for each study. You may participate in one or more studies.

Interested volunteers should contact Gloria Diehl 410-278-5967 or e-mail Gdiehl@arl.army.mil.

After Hours Clinic

The After Hours Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is closed on Sundays and holidays. Patients needing advice on health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518.

For an emergency, call ‘911’ or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

CID looking for special agents

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is currently seeking qualified applicants to become highly trained, federal law enforcement special agents.

In order to qualify, applicants need to be 21 years of age with at least two years of military service and not more than 10; be a U.S. citizen; be an E-5 or below; be able to obtain and maintain a Top Secret clearance, have no court martial convictions; have a GT score of 110 or higher; possess 60 semester hours of college credit; have a physical profile 111221 or higher, normal color vision; agree to a 36-month obligation upon completion of the CID Special Agent Course and have 6 months military police or 1 year civilian police experience. If no police experience, applicant must complete a six-month internship with a CID unit.

For more information regarding the application process, visit Web site, www.CID.Army.mil.

101st Airborne holds annual reunion

The 101st Airborne Division Association National Convention will be held in Hampton, Va., Aug. 4 through 8, at the Hampton Holiday Inn and Convention Center. This is the 59th annual reunion and will feature various activities around the Hampton Roads/Tidewater area.

All members of the Division Association, both past and present, and their families are invited to attend. For more information, call Jim Shamblen, 757-838-5654; fax, 757-727-4070 or e-mail slick77@cox.net.

Community Notes

THURSDAY JULY 22 HOME BUYING SEMINAR

A free Home Buying Seminar will be offered by Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Community Meeting Room in the APGFCU Operations Center in Edgewood, 1321 Pulaski Highway.

Guest speaker Cathy Werner of RE/MAX American Dream will cover topics such as reasons for buying, market analysis, qualifying for a mortgage, contract of sale, negotiating the best deal and home inspections. The seminar is open to the public.

To reserve a space, call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555, ext. 5451.

SATURDAY JULY 24 POST BARBECUE

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen will host a post barbecue at

11 a.m. Fish, chicken and rib dinners, hamburgers, hot dogs and more will be served.

For more information, call 410-272-3444.

SUNDAY JULY 25 OLDIES BUT GOODIES

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen holds Oldies But Goodies Night every Sunday, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

For more information, call 410-272-3444.

MONDAY JULY 26 HAPPY HOUR

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen, holds Happy Hour on Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m.

SATURDAY AUGUST 7 MOTOWN REVUE

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 will hold a Motown

Revue 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., at American Legion Post #17, located at 415 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, with a tribute to the Temptations, Four Tops, Smokey Robinson, Mavalettes and more.

The Spindals and The Fabulous Friends will be featured entertainers. Tickets cost \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call VFW Post 6054 at 410-688-3188 or 410-272-3444.

MONDAY AUGUST 16 PINK RIBBON CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Upper Chesapeake Medical Center and The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Cancer Institute at Franklin Square will sponsor the American Cancer Society Pink Ribbon Classic Golf Tournament at Winters Run Golf Club with a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

The cost to play is \$150 per person or \$500 for a four-

some.

Each player will receive free breakfast and a buffet lunch.

For more information or to participate, call Todd Sullivan at the American Cancer Society at 410-933-5142, or e-mail todd.sullivan@cancer.org.

SATURDAY AUGUST 21 30 AND OVER NIGHT

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen will sponsor a 30 and Over Night, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Donation is \$5.

For more information, call 410-272-3444.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50 -- Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 7 P.M.

Starring: Steve Coogan, Jackie Chan

Passepartout, a Chinese thief steals a valuable jade Buddha and then seeks refuge in the traveling companionship of an eccentric inventor, Phileas Fogg (Coogan), who has taken on a bet with members of his gentlemen's club that he can make it around the world in a mere 80 days, using a variety of means of transportation, like boats, trains, balloons, elephants, etc. Along the way, Passepartout uses his

amazing martial arts abilities to defend Fogg from the many dangers they face. (Rated PG)

GARFIELD (FREE ADMISSION) SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1 P.M. AND 7 P.M.

Starring: Breckin Meyer, Jennifer Love Hewitt

Garfield's life is great. He eats, and sleeps, and that's all. Now, his owner, Jon Arbuckle (Meyer), just got a lovable pooch named Odie. Garfield's life spirals out of control now that Odie is in the same household as him. One night, Odie is kidnapped, and Garfield feels that he is to

blame for what happened. Garfield sets off to find the crook and get Odie back. (Rated PG)

THE TERMINAL SATURDAY, JULY 24, 9 P.M.

Starring: Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta Jones

An Eastern European immigrant (Hanks) is forced to live at Kennedy Airport when his former war-torn borders are erased, voiding his passport and leaving him with no political home. The refugee meets and falls in love with a flight attendant (Zeta Jones), which prompts a bold escape plan. (Rated PG-13)

Toastmasters announces transfer of power

Beverly Bunch

Toastmasters

In the shadows of high profile international changes in leadership, another shift of power took place at a local level this month. On July 1 Gunpowder Toastmasters - Club #2562's newest slate of officers assumed leadership for fiscal year 2004-5. New members are President, Jesse Barber; Vice President of Education, Donna Moltrup; Vice President of Membership, Len Kolodny; Vice President for Public Relations, Beverly Bunch; Secretary, Derrick Bryant; Treasurer, Liz Fournier; and Sergeant-at-Arms, Theo Berenthien.

"With this shift of officers comes a continuation of the Toastmasters International traditions, as well as, skills, talents, and enthusiasm, which are indicative of this group's diversity," Barber said.

The Gunpowder Club, like other Toastmasters clubs around the world, facilitates the process of self-growth by allowing members to speak within a supportive environment.

"For those who are not familiar with the Toastmasters organization, members learn by speaking to fellow club members within a supportive environment," Berenthien said.

A typical club is made up of 20 to 30 people who meet regularly for about an hour. At each meeting, everyone has an opportunity to practice speaking. Presentations vary from one to two-minute impromptu speeches, up to five or seven-minute talks based on projects from the Toastmasters International Communication and Leadership Program manuals. Every speaker receives

immediate feedback about his or her strengths, as well as suggestions for improvement.

The new Gunpowder Toastmasters officers invite the public to join them as they "kick-off" the year.

"New members are always welcome," Kolodny said. "As we learn and grow in our new roles, we want to share the benefits of being a "Toastmaster."

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club #2562 meets at 11:40 a.m. on the first and third Monday of each month in the

Gunpowder Community Club in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

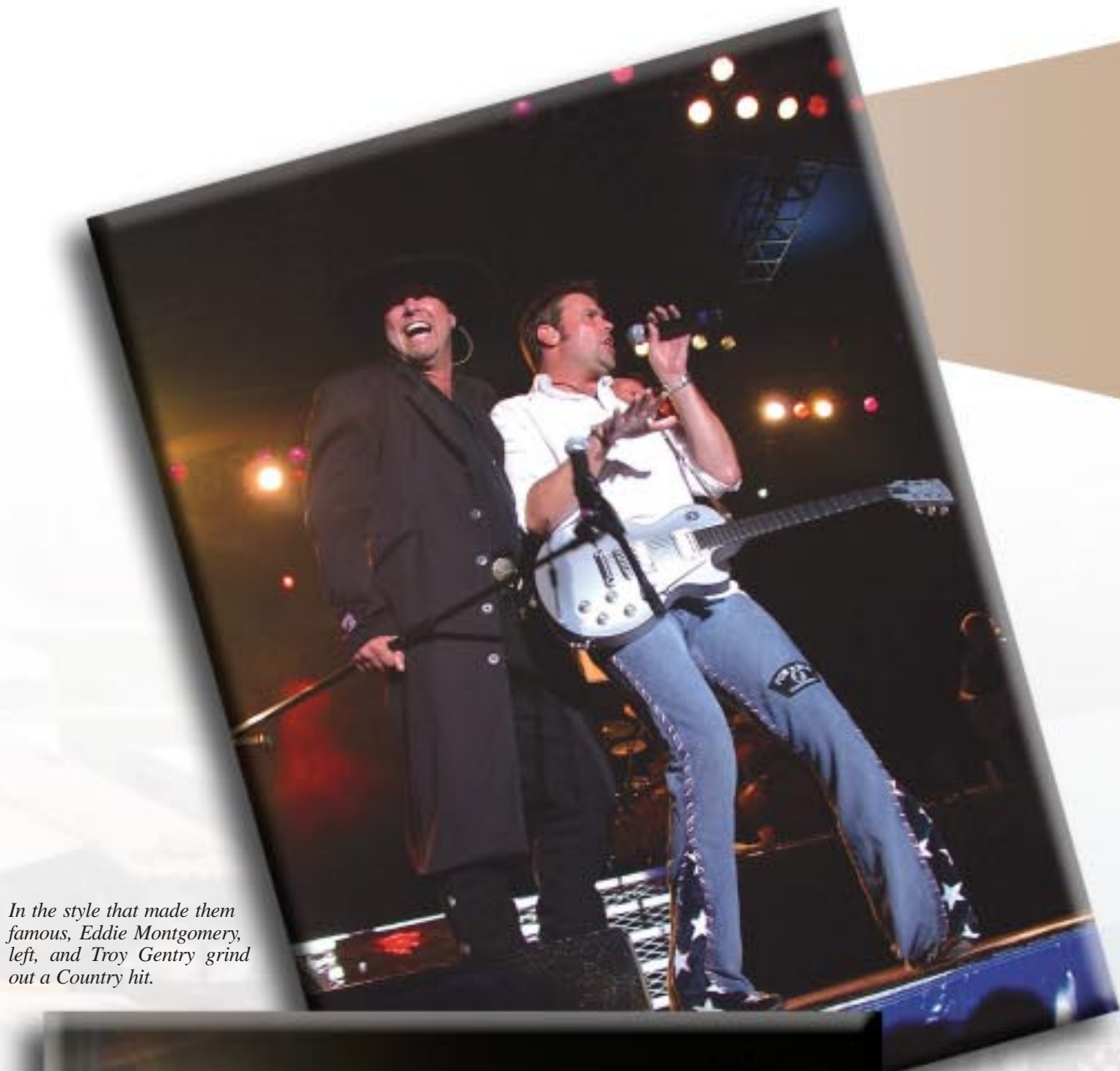
Should these meeting days or location pose a conflict, an alternative is available through the Susquehanna Toastmasters Club #3898, which meets at noon on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Top of the Bay in the Aberdeen Area of APG.

For more information, call Kolodny, Gunpowder Club, 410-434-7563, or Doug Strand, Susquehanna Club, 410-306-0668.

Montgomery Gentry dazzles APG fans during Country concert

Record numbers turn out for Army Entertainment event

MWR delivers smooth operation



In the style that made them famous, Eddie Montgomery, left, and Troy Gentry grind out a Country hit.



Montgomery, left, converses with Gentry in between songs.



Blue County charms fans with a soft ballad.



Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security officers screen fans and their possessions before allowing entry into the holding area.

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

In the most anticipated event of the summer, thousands of happy fans partied to the sounds of Montgomery Gentry, Blue County and Dean Crawford and the Dunn's River Band during the Miller Lite Army Entertainment Concert at Aberdeen Proving Ground July 17.

An estimated 12,000 fans filled Shine Sport Field, eclipsing the previous record of 10,000 at the Alabama concert five years ago, for the Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored event that was more than six months in planning.

Marni Allison, MWR chief of program teams, said that coordinated efforts between APG garrison organizations such as MWR and the direc-

torates of Law Enforcement and Security, Installation Operations, Community and Family Activities, and Safety, Health and Environment, as well as the APG Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, the Army Substance Abuse and Equal Employment Opportunity programs made for a smooth operation.

"Given the popularity of Montgomery Gentry, we knew this would be a big operation," Allison said. "All the directorates, volunteers and support activities came together to make this a successful endeavor for the installation and for the community."

Allison thanked the event's corporate sponsors and supporters who included General Nutrition Centers (GNC), BankOne, Pepsi, Miller Lite, Jack Daniels Country Cocktails, and radio stations WXCX 103.7 FM in Havre de

Grace and WPOC 93.1 FM in Baltimore.

"Many thanks to our sponsors and volunteers," Allison said. "They are the ones who made this happen."

Gwen Meadows, marketing director, Community Recreation Division, added her thanks to Detachment 1, 1159th Air Ambulance Company, Maryland Army National Guard, for supporting MWR's audio visual team.

She said that despite losing nearly two days of preparation to the heavy rains that soaked the field earlier in the week forcing organizers to spread straw over much of the area, the show went off without a hitch.

"I can't say enough about everyone who pitched in," Allison said. "From the MWR staff to the volunteers, everyone worked together to bring this off. It was a tremendous achievement for everyone involved."

The performers

As expected, the evening's headliner, Montgomery Gentry dominated the evening with the high energy, down-home style that has made them one of the top grossing acts in Country music.

The record crowd stood shoulder-to-shoulder, singing along with every song and screaming for more as each song ended. It was vintage Montgomery Gentry from the moment they emerged from a cloud of smoke in center stage until they wished all a safe good night. The duo,

consisting of Eddie Montgomery and Troy Gentry, treated fans to their biggest hits like "If You Ever Stop Loving Me," "Speed," "Hell Yeah," and "You Do Your Thing."

Known for their patriotism and love of "regular hardworking folks," they charmed the crowd, interjecting comments about their

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The Young and Restless."

"Montgomery Gentry rocks," she added.

Jenny Alexander, a Montgomery Gentry fan from Middle River, said she "totally enjoyed the whole thing."

"It was a great night with great music," Alexander said.

"The show was awesome," added Pvt. Matt Moss, Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, after Troy Gentry signed the back of his T-shirt during an autograph session after the concert.

"This is my second time seeing them," he said of Montgomery Gentry. "I'm an even bigger fan now than I was before."

Prior to the Army Entertainment segment of the evening, about 2,000 early arrivers in the holding area were treated to the music of Baltimore's top Country group, Dean Crawford and the Dunn's River Band.

The group gave a wholesome, backyard-style performance on the back of a flatbed truck, delighting fans with Top 20 sounds as well as original songs. Many newfound fans for the group danced, sang along and purchased copies of Crawford's debut CD, "Red Blooded American Boy."

"We're here to enjoy ourselves and to help you enjoy yourselves," Crawford told the crowd as they warmed up to the band's thumping rhythms.

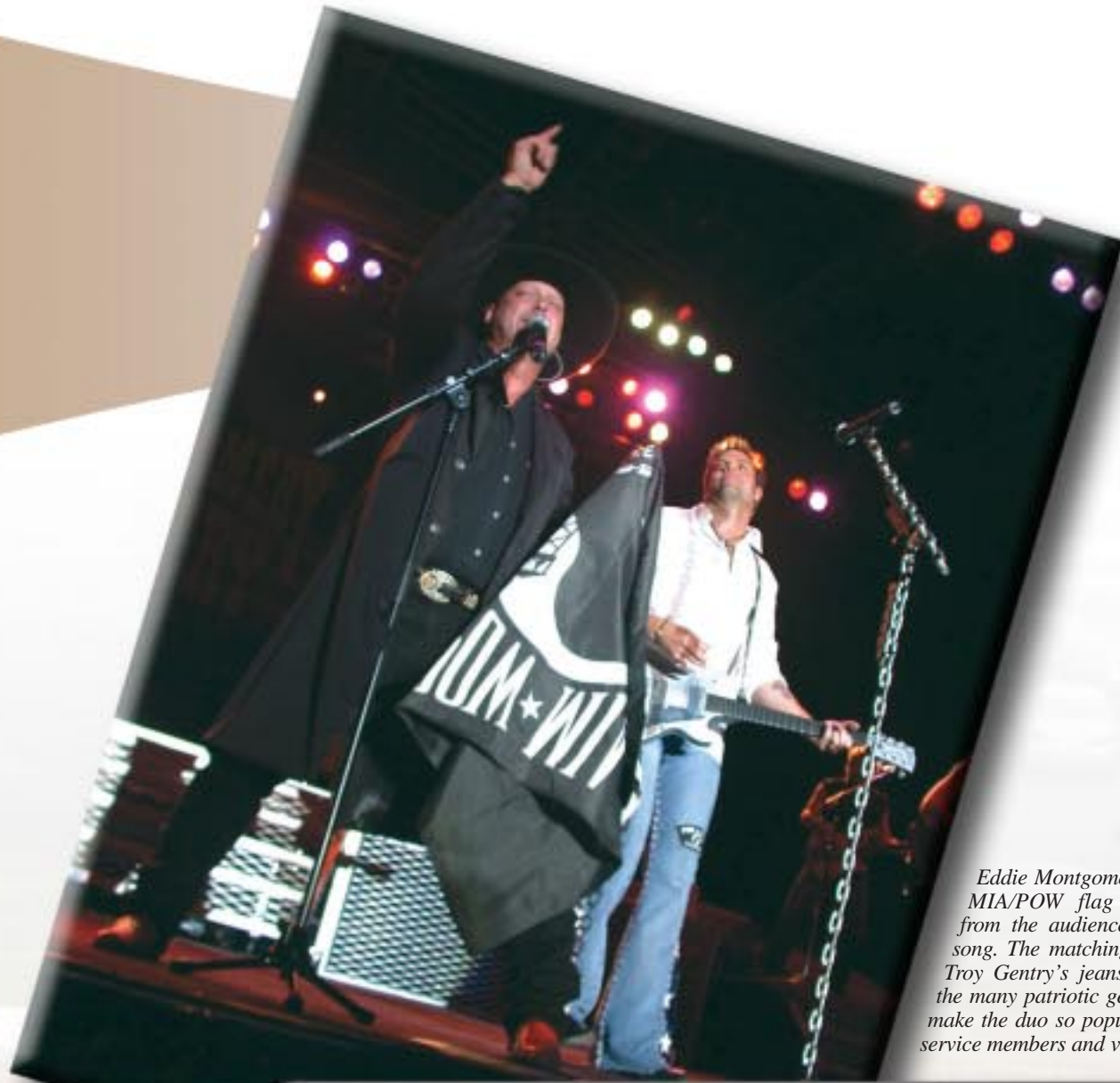
Dozens lingered after the performance for autographs and to meet the members of the band who included Kenny Wise on mandolin; Ernie Fair on lead guitar; Bobby Lawrence on drums; Billy Coley on steel guitar, Mike Frampton on base guitar and sound engineer Randy Denmyer.

"We're just very grateful to Marni Allison, Gwen Meadows and MWR for giving us this opportunity to showcase our music," Crawford said. "We made some new fans and some new friends. It was a great, great day for us."

"I think he's awesome," said Julie Miller, a Port Deposit volunteer firefighter after Crawford's performance. "He needs to spread out this way into Cecil and Harford counties.



Troy Gentry dashes across the stage during the duo's opening number.



Eddie Montgomery holds a MIA/POW flag tossed in from the audience during a song. The matching patch on Troy Gentry's jeans is one of the many patriotic gestures that make the duo so popular among service members and veterans.



Troy Gentry, left, and Eddie Montgomery, shake hands with Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, right, as he delivers a fresh guitar to the stage during the Miller Lite Army Entertainment concert featuring Montgomery Gentry July 17.



Dean Crawford, center stage, and the Dunn's River Band perform for fans in the holding area on Shine Sports Field before the Miller Lite Army Concert Tour.



Pvt. Matt Moss, Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, is happy to have his T-shirt signed by Troy Gentry.

Background photo by LA'MONT HARBISON

enforcement presence that included officers at the entranceways, on traffic details, securing the stage areas, and roaming the grounds, was to ensure a safe environment for all.

"Our first priority is force protection," Bowman said. "We want to keep everyone safe but we also want them to relax and have a good time."

He said no major incidents were anticipated despite the size of the crowd.

"Most come here with one purpose in mind and that's to have a good time," Bowman said. "For the most part the crowd has been great."

Other areas of concern for planners included ensuring handicapped fans were attended to and that alcohol servers were trained in spotting intoxicated patrons.

Cindy Scott, Army Substance Abuse Program, visited each booth serving beer or wine coolers

to ensure servers knew how to identify those who could legally consume alcoholic beverages.

"Orange is 'go' and Pink is 'no,'" Scott informed the servers regarding the colored wrist bands placed on each concert-goer.

"We want everyone to have a good time but we want them to drink responsibly," Scott said, adding that she instructs each server how to handle intoxicated patrons.

"Tell them firmly but politely that you are unable to serve them anymore," Scott told volunteers from the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment serving beer in the Holding Area.

"Orange means 'go,' Pink means 'no,' they answered in unison.

Page designed by
BLAKE VOSHELL



Activities

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Social Hour at Top of the Bay

A “social” hour, 4 to 8 p.m., will be held in the Gunpowder Lounge at Top of the Bay every Friday.

Sponsored by Bank One, <http://www.bankone.com/>, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, <http://www.apgfcu.com/>, a cash bar and free munchies will be open to everyone. Othe food is available for purchase.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

APG wrestling blowout

A Wrestling Tournament will take place 1 p.m., Aug. 14 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center. The tournament is a take-down double-elimination tournament (three-minute matches or the best two out of three take-downs).

Trophies will be awarded for first, second, third and fourth place in each division.

Registration is limited. Cost of registration is \$20; price of admission is \$2.

For more information or to register by Aug. 11, call 410-278-4907/4011.

The one that didn’t get away

Community Recreation Division will hold a Summer Fishing Tournament, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 15 at the Edgewood Area boat ramp and dock area.

Active duty military entry fees cost \$5, and civilians cost is \$10.

The tournament winners receive cash prizes, determined by the weight of the fish.

Contestants must provide their own fishing equipment and bait. Tournament rules and state fishing laws will be enforced. A fishing license is not required.

For more information or to register by Aug. 12, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Collect Striker toys during Bowling for Bucks

Through Aug. 31, the APG

Bowling Center will be offering Bowling for Bucks, the popular series that allows customers to purchase bowling bucks to buy prizes at the auction party at the end of the 2-month promotion.

Collect Bowling Bucks to purchase one of three 9-inch Striker toys, adorable plush collectibles, available with every purchase of \$5 or more.

In addition to food and beverage specials, music, free or discounted bowling and other specials, customers can bid on a 36” Striker doll, a 7-day vacation package from www.GovArm.com and Trading Places, Harley-Davidson shirts, coolers, any remaining 9-inch Striker toys, bowling parties and more.

For more information, visit the APG Bowling Center; call 410-278-4041; or visit the MWR Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Volunteers needed

Edgewood Arts and Crafts is looking for volunteers to help during the summer months, 1 to 9 p.m., Thursday and 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

To sign up or for more information, call Holly Shisler at 410-436-2153.

Survey for concert attendees

Did you attend the 2004 Army Concert Tour featuring Montgomery Gentry on July 17 at Aberdeen Proving Ground? If so, Morale, Welfare and Recreation would like to hear from you.

The survey at <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/concerttour/> should only take a few minutes to fill out. Any feedback will be appreciated.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

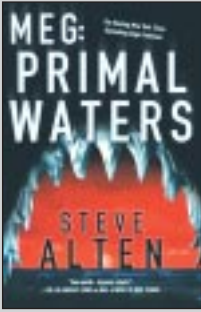
Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday.

For more information, call 410-436-3589.

The following is a list of some new books available at the APG MWR libraries:

Meg: *Primal Waters* by Steve Alten

This adventure-thriller concerns a 57-foot, 64,000-pound prehistoric shark loose in the South Pacific. The Megalodon shark has ruled the planet’s oceans for millions of years, surviving the cataclysms that wiped out the dinosaurs and adapting to climate changes that devastated other prehistoric marine species.

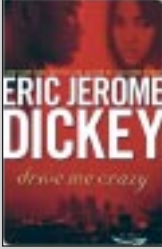


Bait by Karen Robards

Drive Me Crazy by Eric Jerome Dickey

Skinny Dip by Carl Hiaasen

Unlucky in Law by Perri O’Shaughnessy



The library’s Web site: www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html provides access to the library’s online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library’s new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Teen Driver Education

Teen Driver Education registration is now being taken for the following sessions: July 26 through Aug. 6, Aug. 9 through 20, and Aug. 23 through Sept. 3.

Class fee is \$285 per student plus a \$15 registration/membership fee for teens of APG military and civilian personnel. Sponsored students pay \$5 more. All classes are conducted in building 2752, 5:30-8:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Students should bring notebook and pen/pencil. Bring a snack and drink for weekday classes. All rules and proce-

dures will be thoroughly explained by the driving instructor. Parent orientation will be conducted during the first class of each session. Parents should make sure students are on time and picked up in a timely manner.

To make an appointment to register, call Christina Keithley at Outreach Services -Central Registration, building 2752, or call 410-278-7571.

For more information about the Teen Driver Education Program, call Rules Driving School, Inc., at 410-939-7008 or 410-937-2184 or Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

Counsel outlines political limits for Army personnel

Courtney Hickson
Army News Service

As the 2004 election draws closer, Soldiers and Army employees face restrictions on political activities different from those, which apply to the general public.

Violating those restrictions could result in termination of employment or other penalties, officials said.

Federal and state employees fall under the guidelines of the Hatch Act and its amendments.

Political restrictions for Soldiers are detailed in AR600-20.

“The statutory and regulatory guidance pertaining to the political activities of Soldiers and government employees is difficult to summarize in a short news article,” said Maj. John Muehlheuser from the General Law Branch, Administrative Law Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General.

He emphasized that all Soldiers and government employees should consult the statutes and regulations applicable to their specific situation before participating in political activities.

Legal restrictions are placed upon Department of Defense personnel because they are public servants. Also, there is a long-standing DoD policy that DoD personnel acting in their official capacity may not engage in activities that associate DoD with any partisan political campaign or election, candidate, cause or issue.

Among other restrictions, federal employees may not solicit or receive political contributions or engage in political activity while on duty in a government office, while wearing an official uniform or driving a government vehicle.

Additionally, many federal and state employees are not permitted to run in a partisan election.

Army recognizes civilians, announces leadership changes

Jean Skillman
USAEC

Three U.S. Army Environmental Center civilians received Department of the Army awards for superior civilian service from Col. James M. DePaz, commander, at the organization’s Town Hall meeting July 15.

Dr. Kenneth Juris, David Guzewich and Randy Cerar received the third highest honorary award for federal civilian service for their accomplishments in a ceremony that also announced the reorganization of leadership within the center.

Juris’ award recognized his creation of new processes and procedures in the Army environmental regulatory and legislative field as USAEC’s deputy and director of Legislature and Regulatory Affairs. He will now serve solely as the director of the Office of Legislative and Regulatory Activities.

Guzewich earned his award for his overall leadership in technical programs during his four years as USAEC technical director. He will now serve as the deputy commander.

Cerar received his award for accomplishments as the chief of the Cleanup Division during the past two years, including the introduction of innovative contracting procedures. He will now serve as the technical director.

Rescue

Kelly is the new primary point of contact between ATC’s Warfighter Team and the Special Warfare Command located in Little Creek, VA. He was visiting ATC in order to prepare for next month’s training mission.

He is also a Virginia Fire Rescue Volunteer and as a SEAL, he is a Class 1 Swimmer.

According to the Office of the Special Counsel Web site, the process for running for this type of election begins when the candidate begins to collect

employee’s conduct is also subject to the laws of the state and the regulations of the employing agency.

The Army Materiel Com-

“This office will prosecute Hatch Act violations in an even-handed and vigorous fashion,”

-Special Counsel Scott J. Bloch

signatures, schedules fundraisers, files a nominating petition, makes an announcement to the press or puts a campaign committee together.

Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-20, paragraph 5-3, a Soldier on active duty may not participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions, including the solicitation of votes or political contributions for a particular candidate or issue.

Muehlheuser said changes in the duty status of National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers change the rules applicable to their political activities. For example, Soldiers ordered to extended active duty must adhere to additional restrictions on political activities.

Muehlheuser said requests for guidance on political activities issues have been more prevalent over the last year or two as a result of mobilizations to help fight the Global War on Terrorism.

“This office will prosecute Hatch Act violations in an even-handed and vigorous fashion,” in a press release, Special Counsel Scott J. Bloch stated. “As we enter the 2004 national election cycle, it is important for federal employees to be well aware of the prohibitions on partisan candidacy, coercion of partisan support and political activity while on the job.”

While the Hatch Act applies to federal employees, an

mand Web site states while on active duty, a Soldier may:

- Register, vote, and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues as a private citizen, but not as a representative of the armed forces;
- Promote and encourage other Soldiers to exercise their voting franchise so long as it does not constitute an attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election;
- Join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform;
- Serve as an election official if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while out of uniform, and has the approval of the installation commander;
- Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate’s name on an official election ballot so long as the signing does not obligate the Soldier to engage in partisan political activity and is done as a private citizen and not as a representative of the armed forces;
- Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing the Soldier’s personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign or concerted solicitation of votes for or against a political party or partisan political cause or candidate;
- Make monetary contributions to a political organization, party or committee favor-

ing a particular candidate or slate of candidates subject to statutory dollar limitations; and

- Display a political sticker on the Soldier’s private vehicle.

Government employees with questions regarding the propriety of prospective political activities, or concerns about possible violations, can contact the Hatch Act Hotline at the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, 800-854-2824, email HATCHACT@OSC.GOV or www.osc.gov or contact the Aberdeen Proving Ground Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 410-278-1112, for assistance.

APG youths make State All Stars

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Three Harford County seniors who were critical to the success of their high school football teams during the 2003-2004 seasons participated in the Maryland High School All Star Football Game, East vs. West, held July 9 in Towson University’s Johnny Unitas Stadium.

The local standouts were Erin Henderson, Aberdeen

High School, the son of Eric Henderson, athletic coach for the Aberdeen Area Youth Center; Mike Perez, Havre de Grace High School, the son of Sgt. 1st Class Michael Perez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion; and C.J. Allen-Jones, Aberdeen High School, the son of Sgt. 1st Class Albert Jones, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion.

Perez, Henderson and Allen-Jones have each received four-year scholarships to Morgan State University, the University of Maryland and the University of Hawaii, respectively.

Also, Henderson is the brother of E.J. Henderson, a former All American line-backer from the University of Maryland who now plays for the NFL’s Minnesota Vikings.

Although they played their hearts out, the West came up short against a quicker East team.

Henderson quarterbacked nearly the entire game, bringing his team back from a 20-9 halftime deficit to finish 48-31.

The players and parents agreed the game held a special importance.

“It’s the last high school game of my whole life,” Perez said.

At 5-foot, 5-inches and 150 pounds, his quickness with the ball turned several key plays for the team.

“At Havre de Grace, we had the smallest team in the county, the smallest school with the smallest amount of players,” Perez said. “With everything we accomplished, I learned it’s not quantity but quality that makes the difference.”

His father added that he hopes to catch as many of his son’s games as possible.

“I’m still surprised at how good he got so fast,” said the



In the grasp of a defender, Maryland All Star team West quarterback Erin Henderson, 4, is still able to throw for a completion.



C.J. Allen-Jones, left, and Mike Perez, wait impatiently to re-enter the game.

senior Perez. “I deployed to Kuwait in 1996 and when I came back he was playing football.”

He added that his son was “never any trouble and always popular and well liked.”

“It’s all about what’s in your heart,” he added. “He’s proven

that.”

Allen-Jones said he enjoyed the week of practice and drills for all the players held at Frostburg State University and was “just looking to do well.”

“I’ll be trying my best to show I’ve got what they’re looking for in Hawaii,” he said.

His parents, Albert and Florence Jones, said achieving a spot on the state team was one of several goals he accomplished this year.

“It’s a blessing. He’s always been focused,” Florence Jones said. “He told us we wouldn’t have to worry about paying for his college and he meant it.”

“We’re real proud of him,” her husband added. “He’s only been playing football since the ninth grade, and he’s set a great example for his younger brother.”

Allen-Jones’ brother, Cameron, also is set to commit to play for Hawaii, his parents said.

Henderson, who reported to College Park two days after the game, said that he’s slated for a quarterback position at Maryland.

“We practiced everyday, grew closer and got to know each other,” he said. “It was good training that gave us a taste of what’s to come.”

Eric Henderson said that Erin was inspired by his older brother’s success on the field.

“It motivated him,” he said. “For the most part, Erin just got better and better.”

With a third son coming along in track and football, deciding which events to catch will be the family’s biggest challenge, he added.

Dean Swink, head coach for the West team from Walt Whitman High School, said the Harford trio were “something to watch.”

“I loved them,” Swink said. “Perez is a package of dynamite, and all three have big hearts and are great people.”

He said that although all the team’s players were talented, their performances stood, “because of their work ethic.”

“Everyone did great but they were the toughest,” Swink said.

“They played their hearts out.”

The Maryland Football Coaches Association presents the Maryland High School All-Star Football Game annually. Every area of the state is represented. Colleges and universities throughout the state support the event as well as several corporate sponsors including the Baltimore Sun, Towson University and the U.S. Army.